

AMENDMENTS

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 – 7. (cancelled)

8. (currently amended) ~~A method as recited in claim 1~~ A method of sampling internet protocol traffic over links of an internet protocol network comprising the steps of sampling packets at network traffic points as a function of an internet protocol packet content, and
generating a packet label for each sampled packet, wherein said applied packet label comprises between 16 and 24 bits.

9. (currently amended) ~~A method as recited in claim 1~~ A method of sampling internet protocol traffic over links of an internet protocol network comprising the steps of sampling packets at network traffic points as a function of an internet protocol packet content, and
generating a packet label for each sampled packet, wherein a sampling interval for a given period is determined by the upper bound of a sampled packet's expected lifetime.

10. (cancelled)

11. (currently amended) ~~A method as recited in claim 10~~ A method of sampling internet protocol traffic over links of an internet protocol network comprising the steps of sampling packets at network traffic points as a function of an internet protocol packet content,
generating a packet label for each sampled packet,

transmitting said generated label to a measurement system, and
further comprising the step of multiplying the number of packet samples and the number
of bits per sampled packet at a measurement system.


12. – 20. (cancelled)

21. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus as recited in claim 12~~ Circuit apparatus for sampling
internet protocol traffic over links of an internet protocol network for use in sampling
traffic at network traffic points comprising
a processor for computing a sampling function, responsive to the sampling function, for
determining packets to be sampled, and for generating a label for each sampled packet, wherein
said ~~applied packet label~~ comprises between 16 and 24 bits.

22. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus as recited in claim 12~~ Circuit apparatus for sampling
internet protocol traffic over links of an internet protocol network for use in sampling
traffic at network traffic points comprising
a processor for computing a sampling function, responsive to the sampling function, for
determining packets to be sampled, and for generating a label for each sampled packet, said
processor for determining a sampling interval by the upper bound of a sampled packet's expected
lifetime.

23. (cancelled)

24. (currently amended) ~~Apparatus as recited in claim 12~~ Circuit apparatus for sampling
internet protocol traffic over links of an internet protocol network for use in sampling
traffic at network traffic points comprising

 a processor for computing a sampling function, responsive to the sampling function, for determining packets to be sampled, and for generating a label for each sampled packet, said
processor for multiplying the number of packet samples and the number of bits per sampled packet.

25. – 34. (cancelled)
